

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 LONDON 04088 011742Z

45

ACTION EB-11

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 ISO-00 DOTE-00 CAB-09 CIAE-00 COME-00

DODE-00 INR-10 NSAE-00 RSC-01 FAA-00 EPA-04 SCI-06

L-03 MC-02 OMB-01 TRSE-00 SS-20 PM-07 DRC-01 /101 W

----- 040514

R 011736Z APR 74

FM AMEMBASSY LONDON

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 9229

INFO AMEMBASSY BONN

AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS

AMEMBASSY PARIS

C O N F I D E N T I A L LONDON 04088

BRUSSELS FOR FAA

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: ETRN, SENV, UK, FR

SUBJECT: CONCORDE

REF: STATE 64175 NOTAL

1. BRITISH-FRENCH MINISTERS MEETING ON MARCH 29 CONCERN-
ING FUTURE OF CONCORDE REACHED NO AGREEMENT OTHER THAN
TO MEET AGAIN WITHIN ABOUT 10 DAYS AND TO LAUNCH A
REVIEW OF ALL OPTIONS AVAILABLE TO BOTH SIDES. OPTIONS
TO BE EXAMINED WOULD EXTEND, ON THE ONE HAND, TO PROCEED-
ING WITH FRENCH PROPOSAL TO BUILD 19 AIRCRAFT, SOME WITH
INCREASED RANGE AND, ON THE OTHER EXTREME, CANCELLATION
OF THE PROJECT.

2. UK CONCORDE OFFICIAL TOLD US THAT AS FAR AS BRITISH
ARE CONCERNED FUTURE OF CONCORDE IS STILL IN THE BALANCE.
HE SAID UK OPTIONS ON CONCORDE, INCLUDING POSSIBLE CANCEL-
LATION, ARE STILL OPEN AND BEING CAREFULLY STUDIED. NO
DATE FOR NEXT MINISTERIAL MEETING HAS BEEN SET BUT HE
EXPECTS THAT IT WILL TAKE PLACE IN LONDON BEFORE EASTER.
OUR SOURCE SAID HE DID NOT BELIEVE FINAL DECISIONS ON
CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 LONDON 04088 011742Z

CONCORDE WOULD BE LIKELY TO BE REACHED AT NEXT MEETING

EITHER.

3. WE WERE ALSO TOLD THAT WHEN FRENCH TRANSPORT MINISTER ACHILLE-FOULD VISITS WASHINGTON APRIL 21, HE WILL DOUBTLESS TAKE UP SST NOISE AND EMISSIONS QUESTIONS WITH U.S. OFFICIALS. HE IS LIKELY ALSO TO RAISE POSSIBILITY OF US/UK/FRENCH COLLABORATION ON A SECOND GENERATION SST. OUR SOURCE TOLD US THAT BRITISH ARE NOT PLEASED WITH PROSPECT OF FRENCH WHEELING AND DEALING IN WASHINGTON ON CONCORDE ISSUES, NOR ARE THEY SURE, AT THIS STAGE, WHETHER THEY OUGHT TO CONTEMPLATE UNDERTAKING NEW AND COSTLY MARK II CONCORDE PROGRAM EVEN WITH U.S. PARTNERSHIP.

4. IN OTHER DEVELOPMENTS, BRITISH HAVE FORMALLY DENIED TO FRENCH REPORTS APPEARING IN BRITISH PRESS OVER WEEK-END (ANDREW WILSON WRITING IN SUNDAY OBSERVER) THAT UK IS TO STOP ALL WORK ON CONCORDE WITHIN THREE MONTHS. UK TRADE UNION LEADERS REPRESENTING AEROSPACE WORKERS HAVE REPORTEDLY PREPARED 34-PAGE "DOSSIER" SUMMARIZING THEIR ARGUMENTS AS TO WHY CONCORDE PROGRAM SHOULD CONTINUE. THEY EXPECT TO PRESENT THEIR CASE TO INDUSTRY SECRETARY WEDGEWOOD BENN NEXT WEEK.

SOHM

CONFIDENTIAL

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: MILITARY AIRCRAFT, CIVIL AVIATION, CONCORDE, MINISTERIAL MEETINGS, SST
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 01 APR 1974
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: golinofr
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1974LONDON04088
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D740072-0115
From: LONDON
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1974/newtext/t19740478/aaaactit.tel
Line Count: 86
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION EB
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators:
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: STATE 64175 NOTAL
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: golinofr
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 20 JUL 2001
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <20-Jul-2001 by reddocgw>; APPROVED <05 JUN 2002 by golinofr>
Review Markings:

Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: CONCORDE
TAGS: ETRN, SENV, UK, FR
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005